

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
State of Louisiana  
Governor  
Kathleen Babineaux Blanco

Proclamation

WHEREAS, geography has played a defining role in the settlement, history, and cultural heritage of the state of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, an understanding of geographical concepts is crucial to maintain a balance between the wise use of the state's natural resources, continued economic prosperity, and the general health and well-being of the state's citizens; and

WHEREAS, the management, use, and exchange of geographic information are essential for effective decision making by local, state, and federal government agencies; and

WHEREAS, computerized Geographic Information System (GIS) technology provides an efficient and effective means for managing geographic information; and

WHEREAS, there have been widespread and rapid technological advances in hardware, software, mapping, and telecommunications related to the GIS industry; and

WHEREAS, extensive efforts are underway in various public and private agencies and organizations throughout the United States and the world to develop, incorporate, and utilize GIS technology; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to coordinate these efforts to minimize duplication, reduce costs, develop standards, and to facilitate the sharing and interchange of GIS data, methods, and knowledge; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to promote GIS awareness, education, and technical training among various groups to most appropriately and wisely use this rapidly developing technology; and

WHEREAS, National Geography Awareness Week promotes geographic literacy in schools and to the public and is recognized and celebrated annually in Louisiana, that week being observed November 14-20, 2004; and

WHEREAS, GIS is an important part of geography awareness; and

WHEREAS, the national GIS community has joined to declare November 17, 2004, as GIS Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Governor of the state of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim  
November 17, 2004, as  
GIS DAY  
in the state of Louisiana.



Attest By  
The Governor

*[Signature]*  
Secretary of State

*In Witness Whereof, I have herunto set  
my hand officially and caused to be affixed the  
Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the  
Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this  
the 26th day of October  
A.D., 2004.*

*Kathleen Babineaux Blanco*  
Governor of Louisiana